IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5/Election
Amend
9/17/02

OIPE JC98 SEP 12 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application

OSHIMA *et al.*

Application Number 09/987,914

Filed November 16, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND ITS FABRICATION METHOD

Attorney Docket No. HITA.0120

Art Unit 2826

Examiner
Williams, Alexander O.

RECEIVED SEP 13 2002 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2002, the period for response to which will expire on September 23, 2002. Applicants hereby elect the continuing prosecution of Group II, claims 18-37, drawn to a method of fabricating a semiconductor device, without traverse.

REMARKS

The above election along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated August 23, 2002, the period for response to which will expire on September 23, 2002. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the substance of Group II: claims 18-37, and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

Claims 18-37 drawn to a method of fabricating a semiconductor device have been elected in this application, while other claims are withdrawn from further prosecution without prejudice. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a divisional application on any or all of the non-elected claims.